



May 2016  
Volume 8 Issue 5

Councilmember  
Todd Gloria proudly  
represents

*Balboa Park*

*Bankers Hill/Park West*

*Downtown*

*Golden Hill*

*Hillcrest*

*Midletown*

*Mission Hills*

*Normal Heights*

*North Park*

*Old Town*

*South Park*

*University Heights*


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## City Council Considers \$3.3 Billion FY17 Budget

### By Councilmember Todd Gloria

As Chair of San Diego's Budget and Government Efficiency Committee for six years, I always stress to residents of the City how important it is to be involved in the annual budget process. Each year, the City engages San Diego residents in a series of public hearings reviewing each City department in detail. Of the \$3.3 billion proposed in the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget, about two thirds goes directly to the services from which they were collected, like water service and other utilities. That leaves approximately \$1.33 billion for the General Fund, to dedicate to roads, police officers, firefighters, library and recreation center hours, new parks, and many other services.



This year's budget shows continued benefits from sound fiscal policy developed by the Budget Committee, as well as steady growth in most revenue sources. This budget shows a marked improvement from the City's financial condition when I first took office and was faced with having to make many difficult decisions about cutting services. I am proud to say that the City continues to

*(Continued on page 5)*

## Councilmember Gloria Calls for Ban on Spice

The use of "Spice," also known as synthetic cannabinoids, has increased dramatically in District Three, particularly in recent months. The Downtown San Diego Partnership Clean & Safe Program has recorded 161 Spice incidents in the Downtown core from January to March of 2016, a 500% increase over the previous three months. This dangerous, unpredictable, and unregulated drug is rampant in the Downtown community, putting users' lives at risk, tying up public safety personnel, and disturbing the quality of life in the neighborhood.

Community members have called for action. Councilmember Gloria saw the devastating effect of Spice first-hand during the annual WeAllCount homeless census, when he witnessed an 18-year-old

*(Continued on page 4)*

**Join Councilmember Gloria for  
Coffee in Downtown**  
May 21, 9:00—10:30 a.m.  
Henry E. Mills House  
1642 7th Avenue



## San Diego Region Secures \$17.9 Million to Address Homelessness

Earlier this month, the San Diego region was awarded \$17,859,969 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to devote to housing and homelessness programs. The grants awarded reflected an effort by the Regional Continuum of Care Council (RCCC) to apply for grants for projects and programs that support housing first, a nationwide best practice for ending homelessness.

Since June 2014, Councilmember Todd Gloria has served as the Governance Board Chair of the RCCC, a planning body required by HUD that coordinates housing and services funding for homeless families and individuals in San Diego County. The RCCC develops the grant proposals for the region and have been at the forefront of implementing housing first practices in the region to get San Diegans off the streets. This year's funding commitment from HUD marks an increase of \$1.69 million over last year's award for the region.

"San Diego's nearly \$18 million award affirms the work we are doing regionally to shift our system to a housing first approach with a focus on coordination and data-driven decision-making," said Councilmember Gloria. "These solutions are working to end homelessness around the country. As Chair of the Regional Continuum of Care Council, I am committed to making sure San Diego receives our fair share of federal funding to accomplish our regional goals by advocating for a revision to HUD's current formula."

San Diego ranks fourth nationwide in overall homelessness population but was 23<sup>rd</sup> in level of federal funding last year. Councilmember Gloria has long echoed Congressman Scott Peters' call for the antiquated formula for federal dollars for homeless issues to be reevaluated. HUD Secretary Julian Castro expressed his interest in opening up the comment period on the formula during a visit to San Diego last fall, and recently restated his commitment to do so before the end of June.

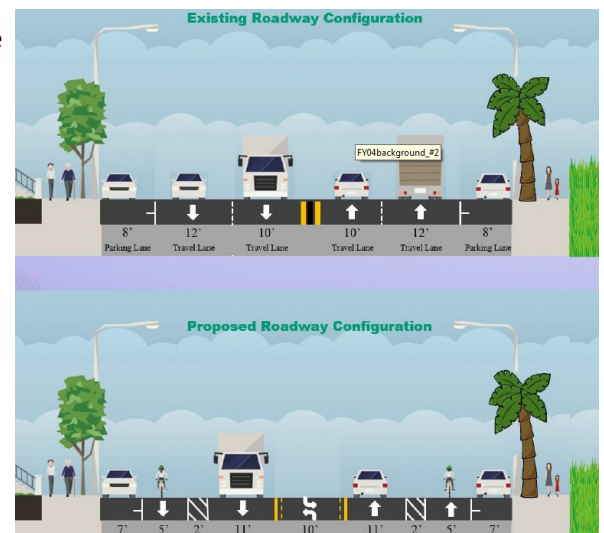
The RCCC will be conducting further analysis and evaluating the net impact of the final awards on the region in the coming weeks.

## Safety Improvements Coming to 6th Avenue

The City of San Diego is working to increase safety along 6th Avenue with a number of improvements to be made in the coming months. The changes are proposed along the 6th Avenue corridor between Elm Street and Laurel Street to decrease speeds, prevent collisions, and increase safety.

The accident rate for the corridor is over three times the expected crash rate for similar roadways. The area is prone to speeding with 85% of cars travelling at an average of 38 mph, far exceeding the 30 mph posted limit. The changes are also geared toward enhancing pedestrian safety to increase crossing opportunities between residences and Balboa Park.

The proposal aims to reduce 6th Avenue from a four-lane collector to three-lane collector with a two-way-left-turn lane and install new five foot bike lanes with two foot buffers between the travel lane and bike lane. Parallel parking on both sides of the street would be maintained and current striping at the traffic signals would remain. City staff is engaging the public on the proposal and implementation is scheduled for the next three to four months.



## Summer Reading Book Drive

The City of San Diego is hosting a Summer Reading Book Drive from now through May 31. Please donate any new or gently used children's books in the white donation bins located at City libraries. Locations with donation bins in Council District Three include the San Diego Central Library, the City Administration Building, the University Heights Branch Library, and the North Park Branch Library.

Participate today to give San Diego children the gift of learning.



# Community Connection: The Todd Squad is Working for You

## Strengthening Public Safety

- A guardrail was repaired on Andrews Street at Linwood Street.
- Several street lights were repaired along Adams Avenue from 30th Street to 35th Street.
- Graffiti was abated from the alley behind the 4500 block of 36th Street.
- Stop signs were approved at Mission Avenue and Monroe Avenue, as well as Quince Street and Vancouver Avenue.
- Playground platforms were repaired at North Park Community Park.
- A mattress and other miscellaneous furniture items were removed from the 200 block of Ivy Street.
- A sofa was abated from the 2200 block of Albatross Street.
- Litter was cleared from the Bridle Trail area on the western edge of Balboa Park.
- A median beautification project was completed along the half-mile of Park Boulevard through Balboa Park from SR 163 to the San Diego Zoo, and is anticipated to save 500,000-790,000 gallons of water annually.
- A permitting issue was resolved for a small business on the 2300 block of El Cajon Boulevard.

## Infrastructure Investment

- A water main was repaired and debris cleared at Lark Street and Fort Stockton Drive.
- A water backflow was repaired on the 3000 block of University, promptly restoring service to affected businesses.
- Sidewalks were repaired on 30<sup>th</sup> Street and Palm Street.

## Community Character

- Crosswalks were installed at Grape Street and Fern Street.



# Help on the Way for District Three's Roads

Councilmember Todd Gloria continues to prioritize infrastructure, knowing a top concern of District Three residents is the condition of their roads. The following streets will receive slurry seal maintenance between May and September:

## Downtown

Island from 15 Street to I-5 Bridge  
7<sup>th</sup> Avenue from J Street to Island Ave  
7<sup>th</sup> Avenue from B Street to C Street  
9<sup>th</sup> Avenue from A Street to Broadway  
G Street from 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue to 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
W A Street from Front Street to Union Street  
W G Street from Pacific Highway to Front Street

## North Park

28<sup>th</sup> Street from Maple Street to Thorn Street  
29<sup>th</sup> Street from Palm Street to Upas Street  
31<sup>st</sup> Street from Thorn Street to Upas Street  
32<sup>nd</sup> Street from Upas Street to Dwight Street  
Dale Street from Redwood Street to Upas Street  
Granada Avenue from Nutmeg Street to Upas Street  
Herman Avenue from Redwood to Thorn Street  
Maple Street from 28<sup>th</sup> Street to End  
Myrtle Avenue from Boundary Street to Nile Street  
Nile Street from Quince Street to Myrtle Street  
Nutmeg Street from 28<sup>th</sup> Street to End  
Quince Street from Haller Street to Nile Street  
Redwood Street from 28<sup>th</sup> Street to Granada Avenue  
Redwood Street from Nile Street to End  
Thorn Street from 28<sup>th</sup> Street to 30<sup>th</sup> Street  
Thorn Street from Nile Street to End  
Vancouver Avenue from Myrtle Avenue to Quince Street

## Uptown

1<sup>st</sup> Avenue from Pennsylvania Avenue to Quince Street  
2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue from Walnut Avenue to Quince Street  
3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue from Washington Street to End  
4<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Washington Street to End  
5<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Washington to 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Arbor Drive from 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Bachman Place from Montecito Way to Arbor Drive  
Brant Street from W Washington to End  
Dickinson Street from Dove Street to Begin  
Front Street from W Spruce Street to W Upas Street  
Front Street from W Washington to Albatross Street  
Lewis Street from 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue to 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Montecito Way from 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Quince Street from 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue to 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Redwood Street from 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue to 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Spruce Street from 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue to 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
W Arbor Drive from 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue to Front Street  
W Lewis from Albatross Street to End  
W Spruce Street from 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue to End  
Walnut from 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue from 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue





## Councilmember Gloria Calls for Ban on Spice *(continued from page 1)*

overdose and learned of the frequency to which our first responders are dealing with Spice-related incidents. The effects of Spice include hallucinations, violent and combative behavior, paranoia, stroke, and often death.

Selling synthetic cannabinoid compounds like Spice has been illegal in California since 2012, with five specified chemicals banned by the State. However, Spice manufacturers frequently change the drug with new and unknown chemicals and the state legislation has not kept up with banning these compounds.

The City of Oceanside recently passed ambitious legislation prohibiting products containing various synthetic drugs. Similar laws have been passed in Chula Vista, El Cajon, Los Angeles, Barstow, Redlands, Twentynine Palms, and Victorville. Councilmember Gloria has called on the City Attorney to help us join these cities to help make San Diego safer. An ordinance is being developed and will be heard at City Council in late May.

## Council District Three Events Round Up

The neighborhoods of District Three are extremely active, with many opportunities to explore our parks, small businesses, and learn about new projects. Keep an eye out for the following upcoming events.

- Grand Opening Celebration for Horton Plaza Park  
Wednesday, May 4- 6:30-10 p.m.  
Broadway and Fourth Avenue
- SANDAG Open House for Georgia-Meade Bikeway Project  
Tuesday, May 10- 6-8 p.m.  
2223 El Cajon Boulevard
- Bike to Work Day  
Friday, May 20
- 20th Annual SDCCU Festival of Arts in North Park  
Saturday, May 21- 10 a.m.-10 p.m.  
University Avenue and 30th Street
- SANDAG Open House for the Uptown Bikeways Project  
Tuesday, May 24- 6-8 p.m.  
Balboa Park Club's Santa Fe Room
- Balboa Park Garden Party 2016  
Saturday, May 28- 9-5p.m.
- Mission Hills Concerts in the Park Kickoff- Bowiephonics  
Friday, June 17- 6-8 p.m.  
Pioneer Park



## Re-imagine Normal Street Demonstration

Hillcrest is reimagining Normal Street with four days of free family fun starting Thursday, May 12th and ending with the Hillcrest Farmers Market on Sunday, May 15th. The Hillcrest Business Association will be transforming Normal Street into a car free public space and opening up the street to pedestrians and cyclists.

The event will kick off on Thursday, May 12th, 6 p.m.-10 p.m. with a Pechakucha Night, where planners and creatives will share their ideas in 20 images for 20 seconds each.

On Friday, May 13th, 6 p.m.-11 p.m., a bike-in movie will be hosted featuring a screening of Steven Spielberg's film, E.T.

On Saturday, May 14th, Hillcrest Brewing Company will present their Hillcrest Craft Beer Crawl from 2 p.m.-6 p.m. followed by a free outdoor concert at Re-imagine Normal Street from 6 p.m.-10 p.m.

On Sunday, May 15th, the demonstration will close out with the Hillcrest Farmers Market from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.



## City Council Considers FY17 Budget *(continued from page 1)*

restore services and invest in core issues like infrastructure, public safety, and implementation of the City's Climate Action Plan. I hope that future Councils continue on the current path of fiscally responsible and transparent budgeting which has resulted in the City meeting all of its pension obligations for 11 years, building our reserves, and maintaining strong favorable bond ratings.

The City Council will hold several hearings to evaluate each department and get feedback from the public on their priorities before a final budget is adopted on June 13. Personally, I see opportunities to increase funding for our City's crown jewel, Balboa Park, as well as for additional resources for our Citizen's Review Board on Police Practices. I hope you all will contact my office or come to an upcoming hearing to add your voice to the conversation.

### Key Budget Dates

**MONDAY, MAY 4-10, 2016, 9:00 a.m.; 2:00 p.m.**

Budget Review Committee Hearings

**MONDAY, MAY 16, 2016, 6:00 p.m.**

City Council meeting for public input on FY 2017 Proposed Budget

**TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2016**

Mayor releases May Revise to the FY 2017 Proposed Budget

**THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2016, 2:00 p.m.**

Mayor presents May Revise to the FY 2017 Proposed Budget to City Council

**MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2016, 6:00 p.m.**

City Council decisions on Final FY 2017 budget and review of FY 2016 Year-End Monitoring Report

## San Diego Calls on State to Reevaluate Proposition 47 Savings Formula

Last month, the San Diego City Council approved a resolution asking the State of California to increase funding for anti-recidivism programs funded through Proposition 47 savings in the 2016-2017 State Budget. The Governor's budget proposal, released in January, estimated a deposit of \$29.3 million to the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Fund (SNSF). City Councilmembers Todd Gloria and Myrtle Cole brought the resolution forward, which could make \$100 million more available statewide for local programs addressing mental illness and substance abuse, truancy and dropout prevention, and victim services.

"When Proposition 47 was passed by the voters two years ago, the expectation and promise was that California was moving from a strategy that was overcrowding our jails, towards diverting low-level offenders out of prisons and using those savings to better address longstanding societal challenges," said Councilmember Gloria. "San Diego is advocating to maximize funding that will help address issues that are among my constituents' top priorities, including public safety, homelessness, mental illness, and substance use disorders."

Passed by 61% of California voters in 2014, Proposition 47 reclassified six low-level offenses as misdemeanors, including drug possession and theft under \$950, and mandated that savings from not incarcerating these offenders was to be diverted to programs targeting at-risk populations for recidivism. The law required savings be deposited into the SNSF and early fiscal analysis estimated annual deposits of \$100 to \$200 million. The Council's action was informed by a report released in February by the State's Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) which claimed the deposit to the SNSF could be far greater than currently proposed by recalculating savings from housing prisoners in private prisons as well as reduced court costs.

The resolution adopted by the Council was sent to the Governor and other State leaders as they continue to review the 2016-2017 State Budget.



# Tracking Todd



1.

1. Todd joined the Girl Scouts to cut the ribbon on the newly rebuilt Cabin 3 in Balboa Park.

2. Todd and regional binational leaders highlighted SANDAG's recent investment of \$1.3 billion in transportation infrastructure for our border.

3. Todd and several community members participated in a cleanup at the Bridle Trail area on the western edge of Balboa Park.

4. Todd turning on the iconic fountain at the grand reopening of Horton Plaza Park.

5. Todd addressed a crowd of hundreds at the San Diego LGBT Community Center for Transgender Day of Empowerment.



2.



4.



3.



5.

Councilmember Todd Gloria serves on the following:

Chair, Budget and Government Efficiency Committee

Member, Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee

Member, Environment Committee

Member, Smart Growth and Land Use Committee

Chair, San Diego Regional Continuum of Care Governance Board

Chair Pro Tem, Metropolitan Transit System Board

Member, San Diego Association of Governments Board

Chair, SANDAG Transportation Committee

Member, SANDAG Executive Committee

Liaison, Civic San Diego

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